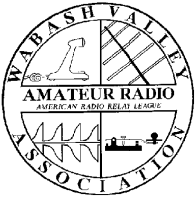


## REGULAR EVENTS

Friday, General Meeting, 7:30 PM, Glas-Col Apparatus  
Jan. 7 7th & Hulman (1st Friday of each month.)  
Monday, Board Meeting, 6:00 PM, Glas-Col., 7th &  
Jan 10 Hulman (Monday following the Gen. Mtg.)  
Every The Club Station is open, 7:00 - 9:00 PM,  
Thursday Downstairs, Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Snow	Phone	Take your pick,
Ice	CW	but have a
Rain	APRS	HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Fog	RTTY	



THE

# BANDSPREAD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

JANUARY 2005



## NEW PRESIDENT FOR THE WVARA

The WVARA welcomes a new Club President to the podium this month, and recently we interviewed him for the purpose of introduction. As hams, we often talk to each other on the radio and pass each other in the hall but we seldom take enough time to learn much about one another. So one of our new year's resolutions is to improve on that.

Gary Adams, W9EEU, comes to our club leadership with more than 10 years experience in ham radio and previous experience on the Board as Treasurer.

He comes from a family full of other hams, some who preceded him and some who have followed. He says he was mostly self-taught, using the "Now You're Talking" book, and the help of an uncle NQ9J, to get his first amateur license in 1994. Since then he has helped his son Jerrod obtain a license as KC9EKD, and most recently his daughter Melody become KC9GWN.

Gary says the most fun for him comes from participating in HF contests, and particularly from Field Day. His station at home in Cory, Indiana, includes a Kenwood TS-570, and a Yaseau FT-8900. He also has a VHF station installed in his office at work, but he says the problem there is that he doesn't get to spend very much time in his office.

That office is located at Glas-Col Apparatus Company, where Gary serves as Treasurer and Vice President of Administration. He joined the company also in 1994, after graduating from ISU's Accounting program in 1975, and receiving his MBA degree in 1994.

Recently, Gary has offered a very nice room at Glas-Col for Club meetings. Although on the second floor, it has easy access by means of an elevator.

We welcome Gary to his new WVARA assignment and look forward to his proven leadership in 2005.



President-Elect, Gary Adams, W9EEU accepts the gavel from two-term outgoing president, Kevin Berlen, K9HX

### Hams-The Forgotten Heroes

An article from the ARRL? Not at all! It's a BOOK! It's a history of how hams in the past have aided in many kinds of emergencies. Interested? Go to: [www.seedsofknowledge.com/hamradio.html](http://www.seedsofknowledge.com/hamradio.html) for notes on the book.

For the latest in what hams are doing now regarding the current Indian Ocean tsunami, go to: [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) and click on *Amateur Radio "Saved Lives" In Southeast Asia* - or try 14.265 MHz, the SATERN emergency net. Your success will depend on propagation, but try around 9AM local time, we're told. -ed.

### Brentlinger Award Nominations are Due!

Just a reminder that the 2005 Brentlinger award nominations are due by January 15.

1. Name your candidate.
2. Write down your reasons.
3. Seal it in an envelope.
4. Mark it "Brentlinger Nomination" on outside.
5. Mail it to: WVARA  
P.O. Box 81  
Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081  
- or -  
Give it to a Board member.

### January Program

The Club meeting program is  
**Check Your Rig Night!**

### LOCAL NETS

Wednesday Evening	9:00 pm CST
Clark Co. ARES Net	146.520/S
Thursday Evening	9:00 pm EST
CAARLA Net	146.685/R
Sunday Morning	8:20 am EST
Vigo Co. ARES Net	146.685/R
Sunday Evening	9:00 pm EST
WVARA Net	146.685/R*

\* First Sunday of the month is Simplex night.  
The WVARA Net meets on 146.595



## General Meeting Minutes 12/03/04

The December 3, 2004 WVARA Club meeting was called to order by Club President Kevin Berlen, K9HX, at 7:30 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gary, W9EEU, followed by introductions of those present. Kevin introduced and congratulated recent graduates from the technician class; there were seven successful candidates from the class so far. **Announcements:** (1) The December Board meeting is Monday evening at 6:00 P.M. at Glas-col. (2) The QCWA/CAARLA meetings are December 11; (3) The Club Christmas party will be tomorrow at World Gospel Church; (4) 2005 Club dues are now due; (5) VE testing will be Sunday at the Red Cross; (6) Santa at the Mall event will be December 11 from 10:00 A.M. through 5:00 P.M.; (7) The deadline for the Brentlinger nominations is January 15, 2005; (8) Jim, WD9EYB, was the recipient of the State Amateur of the Year award; (9) John, N9YRX, announced that tomorrow, beginning at 8:00 A.M., the National Weather Service will recognize Amateur Radio service. (10) Dave, N9FMD, announced that help is needed to provide communication and "crowd control" for the Ryves Hall Christmas Party, December 21. Anyone interested in assisting with this event should contact Dave or Jim Edwards. (11) Jim, WD9EYB, announced that the holiday fox hunt will be held Sunday, January 2. **Secretary's Report:** Debbie, KC9AOR, presented that Secretary's Report and moved that it be approved as published in *The Bandspread*. The motion was seconded by John, K9GBO; the motion passed. **Treasurer's Report:** Don, K9DRP, presented the Treasurer's Report which showed a balance of \$3,838.69 in all accounts. Don moved that the Report be approved as presented; Kay, KB9HYH, seconded the motion. The motion carried. **Old Business:** (1) Santa at the Mall: John, N9YRX, announced that we will be talking to Mrs. Santa, as well as Santa. Setup time will be 9:30 A.M. and we will be on the air from 10:00 A.M., until 6:00 P.M., if we have enough help. The setup is planned for the area outside Radio Shack. John said that we still need more control ops, as well as Santa and Mrs. Santa for one-hour segments. Help is also needed to help maintain the traffic flow and get kids signed up to talk to Santa. See John if you would like to help with this event. (2) The winner of the contest to "name the voice" for the controller was IKQ (Ike) submitted by Terry Hackett. **New Business:** (1) 2005 election: The Nominating Committee has presented a slate of officers as follows: Gary Adams - President; Don Pine - Vice President; Chuck Procarione - Treasurer; Debbie Shorter - Secretary; Dave Pifer - Trustee. There were no nominations from the floor. Gary, K9ERE, moved and Keith, WA9DRO, seconded the motion to close nominations. The motion passed. Gary, K9ERE, moved and Keith, WA9DRO, seconded the motion to accept the slate of officers by acclamation. The motion passed. (2) Dave, N9FMD, asked about the health of the repeater. There was some discussion regarding recent problems being experienced. Kevin, K9HX, reported that he went out to the repeater site, checked it out, and found it to

be working fine at the time. (3) Tailgate: Don, K9DRP, mentioned several ideas for forums and asked that if anyone would like to host a forum or has an idea for a forum, they let a board member know. We will have a Club table; anyone can bring an item to donate. (4) Upgrades are needed for the listserv and donations are being requested from all who use this service. Prior to the program presented by Dave Pifer, N9YNF, there was a break and the half-pot drawing. The meeting was adjourned following the program at 9:50 P.M.

- Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR, Secretary.

## Board Meeting Minutes 12/06/04

The December 6, 2004 WVARA Board meeting was called to order at 6:13 P.M. by President Kevin Berlen, K9HX. Other Board members present: Vice President (President Elect) Gary Adams, W9EEU; Past President, Steve Shorter, NT9T; Secretary, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR; Treasurer (Vice President Elect) Don Pine, K9DRP; Board-Member-at-Large; and (Treasurer Elect) Chuck Procarione, KC9CKK. Guests present: (Trustee Elect) David Pifer, N9YNF, Gary Wheeler, K9ERE, and Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD. Debbie, KC9AOR, moved that the **Secretary's Report** be approved as published in *The Bandspread*; Gary, W9EEU, seconded the motion. The motion carried. Don, K9DRP, presented the **Treasurer's Report** with a total in all accounts of \$4,394.62. He moved that the report be approved as presented; Steve, NT9T, seconded the motion. The motion passed. **Old Business:** (1) Tailgate Party 2005: Don reported that it has been approved as an ARRL sanctioned event March 12, 2005 (second Saturday of March). Flyers have been distributed to several hamfests. Forum ideas were discussed. The Club will have a table of items donated for sale with a 10% commission going to The Club for all items on that table. We also discussed ideas for soliciting vendors from a reasonable distance. It was decided to charge vendors no additional charge other than the gate fee. Anyone with ideas of vendors to contact should e-mail the information to Don and he will send out letters of invitation prior to the next Board meeting. It was also decided to have breakfast foods and hot dogs or barbecue served. (2) The Club station remodeling report: Gary, K9ERE, will provide measurements and meet with the Board for approval of cost. It will probably not be ready before January or February. Kevin volunteered to be on the committee to assist with the project. (3) The Santa at the Mall event was discussed. (4) Education Committee report: We want to be able to incorporate new licensees into the Club. Ideas were discussed. We will put new calls on the listserv so everyone is aware of the new people. The idea of offering a "loaner radio" for new hams was discussed. It was also suggested that we automatically add new stations to the net list for a few weeks to give new hams a chance to just answer their call, rather than just trying to 'jump in'. **New Business:** (1) Installation of 2005 officers - the gavel was officially passed from Kevin to Gary at the end of the 'Old Business' segment of the



agenda. Gary, W9EEU, is the new President; Don, K9DRP, is Vice President; Dave, N9YNF, is Trustee; Chuck, KC9CKK, is Treasurer; and Debbie, KC9AOR, is Secretary. Gary, W9EEU, presided over the rest of the meeting. (1) The listserv was discussed. Additional funding is needed by the listserv provider. We, as a Club, did make a contribution for that this year; it is in the budget as a line item. It was decided that we could also collect contributions from Club members and send them to the listserv host with individual call signs listed. It was noted that we enjoy the benefit of not receiving ads with the mail from the listserv. After the March Board Meeting, we will send in the donations from the list of subscribers as well as from the Club itself. Anyone wishing to donate should turn in their donations by the March Club meeting. It was decided that we should use the listserv to send notice of Club meetings on Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning prior to the meeting; Don, K9DRP, will do that. On Friday just a short reminder will be sent, along with a reminder of the Board meeting on Monday. (2) Dave, N9YNF, talked briefly on the issue of quality of resolution of the pictures in the e-mail part of *The Bandspread* for discussion. (3) The Club database management was also discussed in terms of who should report what to whom. (4) Review of the membership application form: it was decided to add "VE" as an area to check. The items will be revisited at the next meeting; everyone is to review and bring ideas for improvement. (4) Chuck, KC9CKK, suggested the need for us to improve the relationship between the Club and the County Commissioners. We need more exposure; we are a seven-county service area and need to work with county leaders in all areas. (5) The Brentlinger Award dinner was discussed. The date was tentatively set for March 19; ideas for a location were discussed. There being no further business, Kevin, K9HX, moved and Steve, NT9T, seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 P.M.

-Respectfully submitted, Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR, Secretary.

## TESTING FEE INCREASES(AGAIN) IN 2005

As of January, 2005, the fee for VE testing will be \$14.

## Why do we use CQ?

About 100 years ago, English Telegraph used the telegraph call CQ. It was used as a signal meaning "All stations"; a call to all telegraph post offices to copy the message. Pretty much the same as the present meaning of QNC or QST. Like a lot of other telegraph signals that originated on the landlines, CQ was carried over to the radio and was used by the Marconi Company as a general call to all ships. Until the London Convention of 1912, other companies used KA. At the Convention CQ was adopted as the general call of "attention". The letters CQ come from the French word, securite, which means "pay attention".

Source: the internet.

73 & 88,

Ginger, WB9ZHC

## The President's Corner

The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, what an awesome group of people brought together by a common interest. And what a fantastic hobby we all share and enjoy. Kevin (K9HX) has provided us with two years of absolutely outstanding leadership. Kevin's monthly column often referred to happenings in the club that were very successful. Looking back the list included things like Field Day, Santa at the mall, the Christmas dinner, the Brentlinger Award dinner, successful classes leading to a new license or upgrade, Dayton bus, club finances, repeater upgrades, tailgate, and the list goes on. Kevin has set the standard of leadership high and following him will be a real challenge.

As we look forward to a new year, I ask each member to recognize that the WVARA is your club. The club is only as successful as each of us make it through our participation. If you have ideas or suggestions, please share them for consideration. I encourage each of you to be active as the events of 2005 unfold. Monthly meetings, the Brentlinger Award dinner, the Bison Stampede, the Dayton Bus, Field Day, tailgate and the many other events will be successful and fun if we all get out and be a part of the happenings. Together we can make 2005 the best year yet!

73, Gary, W9EEU

The **Bandspread** is the official publication of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Organized around 1927, as a non-profit public service organization, it was affiliated with the ARRL on April 5, 1934.

### Board of Directors:

President	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Vice-President	Don Pine, K9DRP
Secretary	Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR
Treasurer	Chuck Procarione, KC9CKK
Trustee	David Pifer, N9YNF
Immediate Past Pres	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Past President	Steve Shorter, NT9T

**Bandspread Editor:** Gary Wheeler, K9ERE

**Bandspread Facilitator:** Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

**Bandspread Circulation:** David & Mary Pifer, N9YNF & KB9NLJ

Send all submissions To: PO Box 81, Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

Or e-mail the Editor at: [k9ere@earthlink.net](mailto:k9ere@earthlink.net)

Or e-mail the Club at: [w9uuu@arrl.net](mailto:w9uuu@arrl.net)

Or e-mail the Discussion Group at: [wvara@mailman.qth.net](mailto:wvara@mailman.qth.net)

Also, see our web page at... <http://www.w9uuu.org>

Webmaster: David Pifer, N9YNF

# Santa at the Mall 2005



These pictures speak pretty much for themselves. We'd like to thank not only Charla, N9TRS, Debbie, KC9AOR and Doyle, KC9EGN, but also the behind-the-scene Santas: John, N9YRX, Steve, NT9T, Kevin, K9HX and Don, K9DRP. If we left anyone out, and we probably did, our appologies. TNX also to Doyle and John for some of the pictures seen here. -ed.



## Local Hams Aid Ryves Hall Annual Christmas Party

Local Amateur Radio operators helped make Christmas a little brighter for more than 250 children attending the annual Ryves Hall Youth Center Christmas party this year, by using their radios to help coordinate the flow of children through the center.

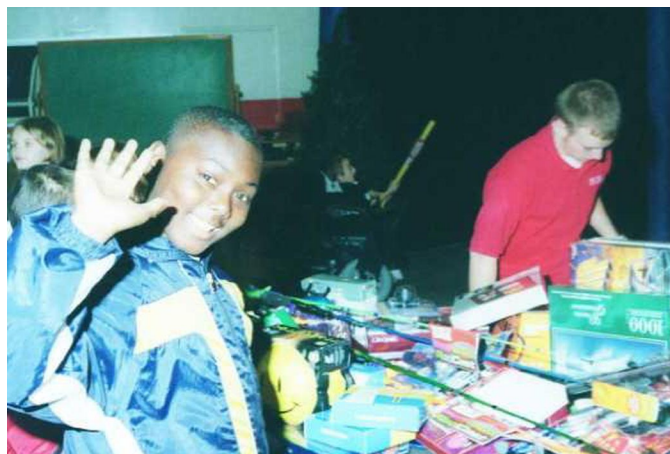
More than 15 hams were on hand for the event, and were positioned throughout the building to manage the flow of children. As each group went through the line to select toys and gifts, the next group was checked for eligibility and made ready. Several minor problems were coordinated with Center staff members, who carried commercial radios on the Center's UHF radio system.

Keith, WA9DRO, served as net control from the Center's radio club station, while Chad KC9BZG provided Christmas music in the upstairs gym. Dave, N9FMD, helped coordinate the activity. A total of at least fifteen hams helped with the event, and brought an estimated 160 years of experience to the project, including two operators who had earned their licenses less than a month before.

The Center Director, Jim KA9DIF, thanks the ham community for their help, and reminds us all that hams are needed every day at the Youth Center to help in many ways. You can contact him to volunteer by calling 235-1265.

Below is what we think is a list of those hams who participated. If there's someone we missed, we deeply regret it.

Dave, N9FMD Keith, WA9DRO Ben, KC9FPO Tim, KC9FSM Ted, K9SGL Diane, W9SMW Kevin, K9HX Chad, KC9BZG Joe, KC9GWW Melanie, KC9GWV Ron, N9GSO Brian, KC9EBZ Chris, KC9GFH Diana, KC9DEA Jim, KA9DIF



### WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2005

Please complete this form and include your dues with it. You may return this application in person or mail to:

**WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
 P.O. BOX 81  
 Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_  ARRL member?

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (Mo/Dy/Yr) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Year first licensed \_\_\_\_\_ Year of last renewal \_\_\_\_\_

ARES member?  QCWA?  RACES member?  MARS member?  New member?

Please describe any employment or other special skills that might benefit Amateur Radio.

If you are applying for a family membership, please list below, the licensed family members living at home, that you wish to include.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL member?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL member?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL member?

Add \$5 per family member above to the Single rate below. To include ARRL membership, see QST for amount.

Dues options:  Single (\$20)  Family:  ARRL membership Total pmt: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Note: 1. Payments made Sept. - Dec. apply to membership for the following year; 2. ARRL also has a family membership program. See QST.

## Dear Dr. Elmer,

What is a phonetic alphabet, and how is it used?

The phonetic alphabet is a standard list of words that is used to make sure that the receiving station is able to understand each letter that you are sending, especially when conditions are poor.

The use of such a system depends on each station using the *same* words to represent each letter. Two such lists are in common use on various radio services, and they are *not* the same. One list was created by the military, another was created by law enforcement community. The former was adopted by the International Telecommunications Union and should be used by amateurs *exclusively* when participating in formal communications.

Now we all have made cute little phonetics for our call signs, and there's nothing wrong with that as long as we *never* use those words in formal traffic such as emergency communications or just giving one's call sign phonetically. Proper phonetics as a call sign is legal. "Cutesy" phonetics for one's call is *not*! "Kilimanjaro 9 elephants remember everything" is *not* a legal ID!

To understand the importance of the uniformity, think about listening to the radio, especially HF, on a very bad day. With all the crackling noises on the band, did the guy say "P", or "D", or "E", or "C", etc. It might be hard to tell. The police would say "Paul", or "David", or "Edward", etc. The military and Amateur Radio services would say "Papa", or "Delta", or "Echo", etc. Even if one station only heard a portion of the word clearly, he would know what the other station meant. Do *you* know all the proper phonetics?

The weak spot in our system comes because there isn't much emphasis on using one standard list. Some of the nets put more emphasis on these procedures than others, but for the system to work all stations involved need to use the same official ITU phonetics list every time.

Dr. Elmer is pleased to answer your questions in this column. If there is something unclear in your mind, or any questions about ham radio, just send a note to the *Bandspread* editor. See the masthead, p. 3, for details.

## VE Testing

TERRE HAUTE: 1st Sunday of  
even-numbered months  
1 PM Indiana time  
Red Cross Bldg.  
700 S. 3rd St.  
Terre Haute, Indiana

For further information, contact Steve Shorter, NT9T, Terre Haute, IN., at (812) 232-4788 or nt9t@arrl.net

MARSHALL: 2nd Saturday  
of odd-numbered months

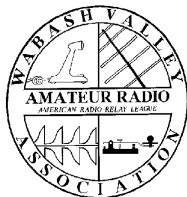
8:30 AM Illinois time  
1st Christian Church  
902 N. 6th Street  
Marshall, IL 62441  
- Walk-Ins Welcome -

For further information, contact John Van Sandt, N9YRX (217) 826-8821

January 8 Marshall

February 6 Terre Haute

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## JANUARY 2005

2005= year; NL= Newsletter only;  
COMP= Complimentary Membership;  
LIFE=Life Membership If there is no symbol showing on your mailing label, this is a one-time complimentary copy of The Bandspread. If so, we invite you to fill out the enclosed membership form to join the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association.

